

The Drayton Valley Western Review

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Tuesday, January 14, 2014



Rock on

49th annual
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44 teams to
curling club

19

Minor hockey rules!

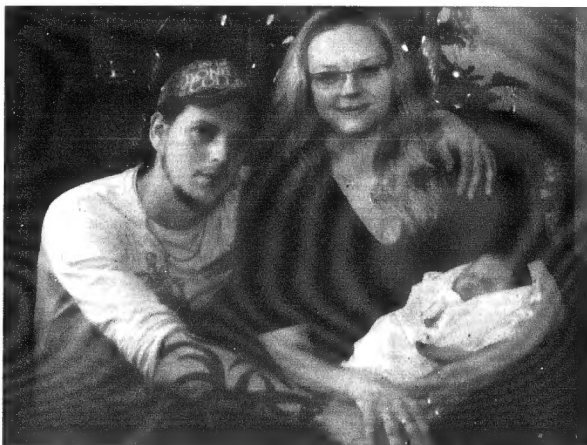
Check out the
special section
in this
edition

23



Vol. 40 No. 2 \$1.25 incl. GST

JOYOUS START TO NEW YEAR



Lesley Allan Western Review

Chris Wilton and Danielle Landers had a very joyous start to 2014 as they welcomed their first child into the world. Elizabeth was the area's New Year baby and came to meet her loving parents at 8:34 p.m. on Jan. 5, weighing 7 lbs. and 8 oz. Happily home, the couple wants to thank the community for their generous donations, as well as the hospital staff who helped to bring Elizabeth safely into the world.

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news

Break in snowfall allows crews to catch up

Public works asks for patience as crews deal with snow accumulation

Courtney Wilson
Western Review

Last week offered a reprieve from the snowfall the area has been seeing over the past several weeks, giving snow maintenance crews in Drayton Valley a chance to get caught up with work on town streets.

Winter is nothing new in Alberta, but so far the season has posed some challenges for public works crews working to keep town streets clear for motorists.

"Just the sheer volume of snow we're dealing with. Everything takes longer," said a public works crew member. "At least one more complete clean up of the municipality than in the entire 30/2/13 season. Public works crews and town contractors have been working overtime to try and keep up."

"They're getting tired of snow too," she said.

Along with public works employees the town contracts approximately two to three additional graders, as well as services to truck snow to its snow dumps and has contracts for additional plows as well.

Even with those resources crews can only work so many hours, notes Sonya Wrigglesworth, engineering technologist in the town of Drayton Valley.

This year crews have run into situations where they just get the town's priority roads cleared and are moving onto other areas (as set out in the town's Snow Removal Policy), when it starts snowing again and they have to go back to the beginning.

"We maybe get this amount of snow every year, but not one (snowfall) right after the other," said Wrigglesworth.

Also this year crews have had to make time to get into some of the town's alleys. She said alleys are not usually on the radar for snow removal, but the year's accumulation has made some of them impassable, making it necessary for crews to get in and make them accessible not just for residents, but for other services such as garbage pickup.

Some residents have been having issues with garbage

pickup and Wrigglesworth said those experiencing ongoing problems with not having garbage picked up in their neighbourhood should call the town so it can be tagged and addressed if it's an issue of accessibility due to snow.

McLaughlin asks residents to try and be patient.

"We are trying our best," she said. That includes patience on the streets, including not passing trucks especially those clearing up wet snow. If vehicles pass in front of equipment picking up windows they will find themselves trapped on the wrong side of the road, causing a serious traffic hazard.

In the near future crews will also be working to take care of snow banks that are impacting sightlines along 50th south. Wrigglesworth asks that drivers be patient and expect delays as crews take care of that hazard.

Last week saw little new snowfall, something crews were happy to see. "We are taking advantage of the break and we are trying to get as much snow out of town as possible," said Wrigglesworth, noting that should help alleviate the potential for flooding if we get a streak of warm weather.

While keeping streets clear is the municipality's job, residents have their own responsibilities when it comes to snow removal.

Drayton Valley Bylaw Officer Pam Bulke said residents need to remember when shovelling or clearing their driveways and walkways that snow

must be stored on their own property. She has received some complaints of people disposing of snow on their neighbours' property. Also a no-no when it comes to what to do with your snow is putting it on town property. Snow from private land can not be pushed onto town streets, alleys or deposited on other public lands.

One of the major issues with getting residential streets properly cleared remains residents ignoring posted signs prohibiting on-street parking. Bulke and Wrigglesworth acknowledge that finding alternative parking

can be a challenge, but in order for crews to properly clean streets vehicles need to be moved. Overnight street parking is fine, as long as vehicles are moved by 7:30 a.m., noted Wrigglesworth.

Vehicle owners who leave them on the street when town signs are posted may have an unpleasant surprise waiting for them. While they try knocking on down to get vehicles moved, if cars and trucks continue to sit on the street, owners will be paying the consequences.

"I have been writing tickets," said Bulke.

Wrigglesworth said once the season is over the department will once again take a look at its snow removal policy. The amount of snow that accumulated all at once has identified some areas that need to be examined more closely. She welcomes suggestions or comments from residents, but noted those would be most helpful if they could be submitted in writing.

To stay up to date on snow clearing in the municipality visit www.draytonvalley.ca or find Town of Drayton Valley on Facebook.

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ATTENTION!

Registration forms and the Addendum for the Drayton Valley Performing Arts Festival are now available online at dvpperformingartsfestival.webs.com and at Eldorado School.

The entry deadline is January 31st, 2014.

The festival dates are April 14-28

Community Scholarship Trust Society
22nd Annual Fundraising Banquet

March 15, 2014 • MacKenzie Center, Drayton Valley
Doors open at 5:00 pm
\$75 each or \$600 for table of 8
For tickets, contact Cheryl Galavan 780-542-3223.

Please join us for an interactive and exciting evening of "Fabulous Feed" game show entertainment, a delicious buffet dinner, raffles and must-see silent and live auction items!

Your support allows us the opportunity to provide grants from Drayton Valley and Broom's with educational scholarships. Donations are graciously accepted by VCSIS Director. Donations and ticket orders only.

Photo submitted
Drayton Valley Bylaw Officer Pam Bulke
has been issuing tickets to vehicles parking in areas marked to be cleared.



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WHAT'S ON?

WHEN THE SNOW FALLS PLEASE...

Obeys all posted no parking signs & move your car when required. Help us keep your streets clear of snow. Violation of the no parking signs will result in being tagged and towed at the owners' expense. For more information please contact the town at 514-2200

DRAYTON VALLEY BRIDAL FAIR

Sunday, February 2, 2014
MacKenzie Conference Centre
11:00am-3:00pm
Free Admission
Fashion Show at 1pm
Grand Prize Giveaway For One Lucky Bride!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- ECDC, Call-in Casual Child Care Worker
- Administrative Assistant Clerk III
- Casual Labourer: Public Works

Information on Town Employment Opportunities can be found in the classifieds Career Section or on our website www.draytonvalley.ca

Upcoming Council Meetings

Regular meeting of TOWN COUNCIL
Wednesday
January 29, 2014
Council Chambers,
Town Office • 9:00 a.m.

Town Office Civic Centre 5120 - 52 Street | Tel: 780.514.2200 | Fax: 780.542.5753 | Box 6837 Drayton Valley T7A 1A1 | 8:30am - 4:30pm | 24hr info line 780.514.2220
Early Childhood Development Centre 780-514-2248 Downtown Library (Civic Centre) 780-514-2228
Park Valley Pool 780-514-2225 Rotary Library (Holy Trinity Academy) 780-514-2628

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- Credit Bureau/ Identity Theft • Financing Post-Secondary Education
- Budgeting Planning & Goal Setting • Car/Home Insurance • Estate Planning
- Budgeting/Smart Shopping • Filing Your Tax Return • And more

"Thank-you for offering these workshops. We've learned so much and will utilize (and have already) these services and pass it on to family and friends."

- past participant

LEND A HAND!



The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program is looking for volunteers: Many taxpayers do not know how to prepare their income tax and benefit return themselves. Community organizations need volunteers like you to provide this important community service to taxpayers who have low income and a simple tax situation.

- Give back to the community
- Receive FREE training and software from the CRA about basic tax returns
- Increase your personal tax knowledge
- Gain new skills while doing work that is valued and recognized

The program will run in March and April 2014. Training will begin in late February. For more information and to register as a volunteer please call Jennifer at 780-514-2206

Your Councillors



Mayor Glenn McLean 780-514-5588
Razelle Rudeaux 780-514-5584
Graham Long 780-514-4411
Dean Shuler 780-514-5584
Nancy McClure 780-514-4411
Feyrell Wheeler 780-514-2655
Deb Bossert 780-514-2658

Making Financial Cents

Thursday Evenings starting
Feb. 20, 2014 • 6:30 - 9:30 pm
NorQuest College 5056-50 Ave.

For more information or to register please contact
Lois at (780) 514-2204
ALL SESSIONS ARE FREE!!!

PARK VALLEY POOL

Free Swim Friday Nights
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Friday January 10th 17th 24th 31st
Sponsored by Drayton Valley Home Hardware

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Valley Power will once again be accepting, at no charge, LIVE Christmas trees for recycling into renewable energy at the power plant. The recycling program is an effort to keep live al

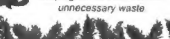
Trees can be dropped off at the market area outside Valley Power 5302 - 34 Ave. until January 31. Please ensure that your tree is free from all decorations and plastic.

For further information, please contact Valley Power at 780-542-7196.

Unable to transport your tree?

For residents who are unable to transport their tree for recycling, please call the Public Works office to make arrangements for pick up at 780-514-2240.

Thank you for recycling and keeping our landfill free from unnecessary waste



PARK VALLEY POOL

Free Swim Friday Nights
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Friday January 10th 17th 24th 31st
Sponsored by Drayton Valley Home Hardware

Park Valley Pool is hosting a Lifesaving Society Bronze Medalist and Lifesaving Society Bronze Cross Class Candidates must be 13 years old and will learn first aid skills, self rescue and rescue of others in and around water.

Classes: Sat. Jan. 18 9:30-5:30 • Sun. Jan. 19 9:30-5:30
Sat. Feb. 8 9:30-5:30 • Sun. Feb. 9 9:30-5:30
Cost: \$64.99

Call 780-514-2225 to register

BOARD VACANCIES

Mayor's Advisory Board

The Drayton Valley Mayor's Advisory Board are currently looking for new members to provide feedback and recommendations to Town Council on ideas for new developments, local needs, areas of improvement, concerns citizens have and to enhance communication between the public and Council.

The Mayor's Advisory Committee currently has openings for:

- YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE
- COUNTY RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

If you are interested in becoming a member, please submit your application via mail to admin-support@draytonvalley.ca by January 15, 2014.

Committee application forms can be found on the town website or can be picked up at the Town office.

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NEWS

Drayton Valley council briefs

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

KEEP IT DOWN

With the approval of the Noise Bylaw at last week's council meeting Drayton Valley now has designated quiet hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

The bylaw, which councillors declined to give third reading in December to allow for more public awareness and feedback, sets out sections for categories of noise including industrial, construction and general. The document also includes penalties and fines for those found to be in contravention of the bylaw and causing noise that is disruptive and unreasonable.

The bylaw does allow the town to approve events that would otherwise be considered unusual or excessive noise on a case-by-case basis, such as a concert.

The bylaw restricts industrial and construction noise to occur between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m., however special permits may be issued in certain circumstances for noise to occur outside the standard hours.

Last week Bylaw Officer Pam Balke said the 10 p.m. end time was based on the few responses the town received to a survey sent out in the fall, as well as discussion by the previous council.

"We'll never make eve-

ryone happy," noted Coun. Dean Shular. "I think this is a reasonable compromise."

Coun. Layrell Wheeler added that the bylaw doesn't restrict people from their regular activities, just puts something in place in the event the noise is excessive and disruptive.

Ideally, there would be no need for a noise bylaw because individuals and groups would be cognizant of the need to respect their neighbours and keep the noise at a sensible level. However, that's not always the case, noted Coun. Graham Long.

"I am very happy to see this going through," he said.

The additional time frame before passing the bylaw gave councillors the opportunity to share the proposed parameters of the document with residents and some increased promotion was used to raise awareness.

"I don't think we can say it hasn't been adequately presented to the community," said Mayor Glenn McLean.

A copy of the bylaw can be found on the town's website at www.draytonvalley.ca.

SHOW THEM THE MONEY

Drayton Valley Town Councillors have signed off on the bylaw that will allow the municipality to borrow the funds needed to complete the new water

treatment plant.

Construction on the new plant started last spring with an estimated price tag of \$24.5 million. More than \$18.3 million of the cost will be covered through an Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater grant, with another \$2 million coming from the town's capital reserves. The town will be borrowing the remaining \$4.1 million to complete the project.

The debt service approved last week will join the approximately \$12.5 million in debt already carried by the town, which is still well below its borrowing limit.

FRIENDS TO FORESTRY
Representatives from the Alberta Forest Products Association were in front of council last week to present an overview of forestry in the province. Brady Whitaker and Brock Mulligan were also asking councillors to show support for the industry by sharing the information they learned.

The AFPA represents 41 member forestry companies in the province. Whitaker told council that Alberta is the third largest forestry producer in the country (behind B.C. and Quebec) and forestry is the third largest industry in the province.

The next regular meeting of Drayton Valley Town Council will be held on Jan. 29.

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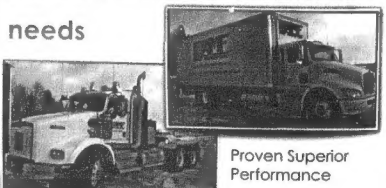
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I would ..."

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Come out and tell us how we can make
Parkland County better now and into the future.

Saturday, January 18, 2014 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, January 25, 2014 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, February 1, 2014 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please RSVP at least two days before each event date
so we have enough tables, chairs, and food!

Many of us have done it. We have sat with friends, families, co-workers, and discussed things that are wrong in the world, with government, with industry, how our tax dollars are spent, and everything else on our minds, and talked about what we would do different if we had the opportunity.

So here's your opportunity.

Parkland County Council wants to know about the things that have started those conversations. And we want to hear about what you'd do different. We also want to hear about those things that you love about Parkland County and want to see continue into the future - and how we can make the good things even better.

Over the course of three Saturdays, we are inviting residents of Parkland County to come out and join us for a full day of conversation. We've picked local community halls to host the events, with lots of room, snacks, and coffee as needed. In fact, we'll even buy you lunch!

Those who attend will be entered into a draw for one of many great door prizes, and we'll even offer you a pass to the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre.

Space is limited so you must register in advance.
Register online at parklandcounty.com/tell_us or
call 780-968-8432.

Here's how:

1. Pick a date that works for you.

Saturday, January 18, 2014
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Carvel Ukrainian Cultural Society
52511 Hwy 770

Saturday, January 25, 2014
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Clymont Community League
51423 Hwy 60

Saturday, February 1, 2014
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Entwistle Community League
4921 51 Street, Entwistle

2. Register online so we can contact you by phone or email.
3. Join us on your chosen date and tell us what you would do if you were in charge of Parkland County.

 **parkland
county**
parklandcounty.com/tell_us

news

Lesley Allan
Western Review

BIG WEST HIGH SCHOOL RODEO

Ken Morton attended the meeting to request 8-10 loads of sand for the Big West High School Rodeo that will be held this spring at the Omniplex. Council indicated that once they have received a written request for the sand they would consider the request.

CYNTHIA HALL DAMAGE

Council received a verbal report regarding the status of the Cynthia Hall following flooding that caused extensive damage. According to Lisa Rabel, agricultural fieldman for Brazeau County, the association managing the facility does not have the funds to cover the \$5,000 deductible required to repair the damages. Council directed administration to follow up with the administration and the insurance company for the next council meeting.

EVENT SUPPORT

Council passed a motion to support the NHL Legends Alumni Game by providing Silver Sponsorship of \$500 with the funds to come from the cultural/libraries Pin-7 funding. The event, being hosted on Feb. 14, is a partnership between the Town of Drayton Valley and the Drayton Valley Thunder.

STRAY HORSES

Deborah Fluet, Weyerhaeuser Pembina Safety and Environment Manager, and Cpl. Dave

Headlin with RCMP K Division Livestock North, attended council to request support for the Sunchild Stray Horses program. The initiative, spearheaded by Fluet, is focused on rounding up stray horses throughout the area along the Sunchild Road, due to the public safety risk the roaming animals have proven to be. Council passed a motion to approve up to \$10,000. For more on this initiative look in next week's edition of the Western Review.

AG SERVICE BOARD

Council passed a motion to reinstate spousal support for conferences/tours of the Ag Service Board. Passed with a vote of 8-1, Division 3 Coun. Anthony Heinrich was against the decision stating that policy needs to be even across the board. Division 2 Coun. Rita Moir supported council's decision and prior to the vote made this clear by stating, "farms are run by families."

FIRE SERVICES

Deputy Fire Chiefs Murray Galavan and Kamli Lasek joined Fire Chief Tom Thomson in council chambers to provide council with a PowerPoint presentation regarding the level of service delivery for the Fire Services. During the presentation the group described services currently provided, as well as special services they plan to introduce over the next five years including: water/boat rescue, trench/urban/heavy rescue, confined space rescue,

slope rescue and high angle rescue. Dive rescue, Hazmat and medical response were also discussed, but were said to be something that would not be realistic for a volunteer-based department to cover. Council passed a motion to approve recommendations made by the Fire Services on service delivery and agreed to help lobby the provincial government to improve medical response services being provided.

Council asked Thomson to provide more information so that they can make a resolution at AAMD&C (Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties) regarding the issues of medical response, giving it more backing.

SNOW REMOVAL

Council discussed a request for Brazeau County to provide snow removal services on the Town of Drayton Valley's section of the Ring Road. A motion was passed to approve entering into a maintenance agreement with the Town of Drayton Valley for snow removal on the Ring Road. Costs associated with snow removal will be billed on a case-by-case basis. Public Works and Infrastructure Director John Basiak also recommended adding a portion of Twp. Rd. 491 to the agreement as the county already clears part of it.

Council also discussed snow removal in trailer courts as it relates to pub-

lic safety and emergency vehicles. Fire Chief Tom Thomson will be forwarding a letter to the owners of the Poplar Ridge and County Style trailer courts to request the removal of snow. Because they are privately owned, Brazeau County has no jurisdiction in trailer courts.

ASSESSOR APPOINTED

Council passed a motion to enter into an agreement with Accurate Assessment Services for the provision of assessment services for the period of March 1, 2014 to February 28, 2017 as per the quote supplied.

The next regular Council meetings will be held Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and Feb. 18. With files from Brazeau County

Brazeau County council briefs

**DV Rural Area
Crime Watch Association
GENERAL MEETING**
January 20, 2014 • 7:30 pm
Violet Grove Hall
Guest Speakers:
• Drayton Valley RCMP
• Brazeau County Peace Officer
• PenixWest Security
Phone
Marcel 780-621-8413

780-621-9177
Skinny Fiber
Marilyn Beiss
Director
MarilynBeiss@gmail.com
Phone: Marilyn@beissfiber.com

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"Wonderful voices, charming, truly gifted!"
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Show Starts at 7:30 pm
Admission: \$10.00 for 18 & over
\$14.00 for 17 & under
5144 51 Street Drayton Valley, AB
Tickets: \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 at the door
Available at Violet Group Mall
We at Drivings or any EPAC member
Call 780-694-7933 for more information

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Admission: \$10.00 for 18 & over
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5144 51 Street Drayton Valley, AB
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Available at Violet Group Mall
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Call 780-694-7933 for more information

Court briefs

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

MAN JAILED FOR FAILING TO STAY AWAY FROM EX

A man had three days left to spend in jail last week after pleading guilty to breaching conditions of a court order not to contact his ex-partner. On Dec. 21 RCMP received a call from a woman that her ex-partner, Ronald Stewart, was at her home. At the time he was under court orders not to contact her. When police arrived they were unable to locate him.

However, the woman gave a statement saying that Stewart had shown up at the home and was asked to leave. He complied, but

then came back again later, when he was asked to leave again. Police located Stewart and as of Jan. 7 he had spent 17 days in pre-sentence custody.

The court heard that Stewart had attended the residence to deliver a Christmas present he had purchased for his ex. Both times he attended, he left when asked to by the woman.

"I realize it was a very stupid move for me to go there," he said last week, noting he would not make the same mistake when released from custody.

Stewart was sentenced to 20 days in jail for breaching the no contact condition. He was given credit for 17 days spent in pre-sentence custody.

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Comment

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Western Review

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our editorial

If vandalism isn't stopped community may pay the price

Once again last weekend the volunteer operators of the Drayton Valley Ski Hill were looking for people to assist them. That in itself is not unusual as the ski hill relies on volunteer support so it can open to the public. However, last weekend they were looking for people who could volunteer their time to help make repairs to equipment that was damaged by vandals.

This is not the first time this year the Drayton Valley/Bozeman County Snow Club that operates the hill has been the victim of vandalism.

The call has gone out on Facebook numerous times for help in repairing damage to the ski lift and in convenience and at worst a crippling blow. This is especially true when the victim is a not-for-profit group that relies on very limited resources to keep operating.

The Drayton Valley/Bozeman County Snow Club is one such organization. Volunteers work hard to get the local hill ready, open it for use and keep equipment maintained for the safety of users. The hill provides a place close to home for skiers and snowboarders, especially

young ones, to fit in a couple of quick runs without having to travel.

When individuals trespass onto the property and cause damage to the equipment, such as demolishing the cable, which is what happened last weekend, it's not only frustrating and disheartening, but also has the potential for more serious consequences. Any volunteer group, when faced with a pattern of vandalism, may start to evaluate if all their hard work is worth it.

For those who use the hill regularly the answer would be yes, it is. But for those who spend their free time keeping the hill running, only to have people who can only be described as idiots do a continuing amount of damage, that answer may eventually be no. With a limited amount of resources the cost of repairs may also become a burden.

There's no indication there is an imminent danger of volunteers throwing in the towel, but it's a possibility the public should be aware of. Vandalism is not something that should be shrugged off or considered a minor crime. Those who have information on the people responsible should inform the police, because if it continues it may be the community that pays the price by losing a valuable recreation facility.

Sports for the unsporty

For someone who is in garbage at every form of sport I've ever attempted I've certainly seen my fair share over the past 10 years.

As a reporter (and yes, even as an editor) at community newspapers you regularly find sports on your assignment list. That will include those you are familiar with as well as introduce you to many you've never given much thought to. In my 10 years in the industry I've covered the gamut. Some I've enjoyed, some I've tolerated, some I've hoped don't land on the weekend I'm working (even though that's almost a guarantee they will).

For someone who never aspired to be a sports reporter and in fact never came close to approaching anything that could be described as athletic, there have been some steep learning curves. Sometimes I've managed to get a handle on what's going on, one thing remains a mystery (I have yet to fully grasp the intricacies of rugby). In those cases



There and Back
Courtney Whalen

We count on the forbearance of coaches and athletes who are passionate about their sport to put up with our furrowed brows and blank stares as we ask them to explain to us what we're seeing.

However, last weekend I got to go and take pictures at one of the sporting events I always enjoy attending — the Drayton Valley Minor Hockey Association Mites Initiation Tournament. Watching the aspiring athletes on the ice chasing after the puck, passing, shooting, and even the falling down, it makes me smile. They're just so little!

Don't get me wrong, even the smallest and youngest of those hockey players could

hand me my butt in a game! I couldn't think about holding a stick while skating because if I was holding a stick I could be on the boards in a moment's notice.

I also like this tournament because, in general, the atmosphere in the crowd is so positive. Most of the shouts are of encouragement and there is applause for both teams. I've been to some hockey tournaments in the older divisions where that is far from the case and being there leaves a bad taste in my mouth — sometimes adults can act more childish than the youngest kid on the ice.

But last weekend I couldn't help but grin as the mite and initiation age players made their way up and down the ice in their big home tournament as family and friends cheered them on from the stands.

This week we are celebrating minor hockey in our community. Turn to page 13 to see pictures from the mites/initiation tournament and turn to page 23 for our salute to minor hockey.



opinion

Resident sickened by animal abandonment

On Jan. 3 at about 12:30 p.m. my husband took our two young granddaughters to town for a hot chocolate as a nice way to spend time together before Christmas break was over. We live 9 1/2 miles from town, so it is a short drive. We all know this has been an exceptional year for our snow accumulation. Some days, if you are lucky, the grader will have the road plowed and the snow banks are huge.

When they were coming up our hill earlier today, they saw something moving in the snow bank. Grandpa said it's a squirrel, the girls said, no papa it's a bird. They slowed as they went by, and to their amazement, it was there. It was a poor little kitten! Stuck in the snow bank! It was very apparent that it was not in there of its own accord. It had been thrown in there

and left to freeze to death, to suffer an agonizing painful death, only after it had starved and was dehydrated. It is maybe five weeks old. What kind of a degenerate could do that to a sweet tiny little animal? It was so thin and hungry it was probably kept itself alive by trying to get out of the grave that it was tossed in. There is no printable words to describe this person, to be able to do that and live with yourself. What a coward. There are people who would have taken it. There is help, or Cause for Critters or other solutions, other than what you have done. To say nothing of the distress you caused my granddaughters. Try explaining to them that what they saw was the act of a person with no conscience, that not all adults could do such a despicable thing! I wonder what this world is coming to.

A year ago this fall, someone dropped a very, very pregnant cat at the end of my driveway. The next morning a much kinder

moon was standing at my step looking for food and water. I followed her to see where she had the babies. She had them under a snowmobile. With winter just days away, we had to bring her in and give her food and shelter for all seven of the kittens! Cause for Critters was full so we had to wait. They were old enough to be weaned before there was room for them. It was not fair to me or the cat and kittens, but I couldn't see them suffer. Perhaps it is the same individual that did this disgusting act! I feel sorry for you, that a few bites of kibble, and a sip of milk could cause you to resort to this thoughtless deed. With the temperature dropping and more snow falling, she won't long for this earth. We will make sure it is looked after, or find it a new home, rest assured of that!

Valerie Cameron

Around the water cooler...

LETTERS POLICY

To be considered for publication, letters to the editor must include the full name of the author for print and an address and phone number for verification.

Letters may be edited for length, content, grammar, spelling and libel.

We will not print anonymous letters. As a local newspaper we focus on local events and our letters section is reserved for residents in our readership area.

Letters can be e-mailed to: courtney.whalen@dravtonvalley.com or dropped off at our office during business hours.

SEKURA AUCTIONS

SEKURA Rimbey AB Livestock
1-800-945-6339
Rimbey, AB
Reg. Cattle Sales: Tuesdays 9:00 am
Reg. Cow Sales: Mon, 2, 10am, 10:30am
Herdings: 12pm
Cattle Sale: March 11, 12pm (Pricing)
Horse Sales: Sat, 3pm, 4pm every month
For more info visit us online at:
www.sekura.com

SEKURA LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

Week Ending	Dec 30th 2013	4578
Feeder Cattle		
Weight		
1400-1425	120-125	126
1425-1450	127-130	131
1450-1475	131-135	137
1475-1500	135-140	141
1500-1525	141-145	146
1525-1550	145-150	151
1550-1575	151-155	156
1575-1600	156-160	161
1600-1625	161-165	166
1625-1650	166-170	171
1650-1675	171-175	176
1675-1700	176-180	181
1700-1725	181-185	186
1725-1750	186-190	191
1750-1775	191-195	196
1775-1800	196-200	201
1800-1825	201-205	206
1825-1850	206-210	211
1850-1875	211-215	216
1875-1900	216-220	221
1900-1925	221-225	226
1925-1950	226-230	231
1950-1975	231-235	236
1975-2000	236-240	241
2000-2025	241-245	246
2025-2050	246-250	251
2050-2075	251-255	256
2075-2100	256-260	261
2100-2125	261-265	266
2125-2150	266-270	271
2150-2175	271-275	276
2175-2200	276-280	281
2200-2225	281-285	286
2225-2250	286-290	291
2250-2275	291-295	296
2275-2300	296-300	301
2300-2325	301-305	306
2325-2350	306-310	311
2350-2375	311-315	316
2375-2400	316-320	321
2400-2425	321-325	326
2425-2450	326-330	331
2450-2475	331-335	336
2475-2500	336-340	341
2500-2525	341-345	346
2525-2550	346-350	351
2550-2575	351-355	356
2575-2600	356-360	361
2600-2625	361-365	366
2625-2650	366-370	371
2650-2675	371-375	376
2675-2700	376-380	381
2700-2725	381-385	386
2725-2750	386-390	391
2750-2775	391-395	396
2775-2800	396-400	401
2800-2825	401-405	406
2825-2850	406-410	411
2850-2875	411-415	416
2875-2900	416-420	421
2900-2925	421-425	426
2925-2950	426-430	431
2950-2975	431-435	436
2975-3000	436-440	441
3000-3025	441-445	446
3025-3050	446-450	451
3050-3075	451-455	456
3075-3100	456-460	461
3100-3125	461-465	466
3125-3150	466-470	471
3150-3175	471-475	476
3175-3200	476-480	481
3200-3225	481-485	486
3225-3250	486-490	491
3250-3275	491-495	496
3275-3300	496-500	501
3300-3325	501-505	506
3325-3350	506-510	511
3350-3375	511-515	516
3375-3400	516-520	521
3400-3425	521-525	526
3425-3450	526-530	531
3450-3475	531-535	536
3475-3500	536-540	541
3500-3525	541-545	546
3525-3550	546-550	551
3550-3575	551-555	556
3575-3600	556-560	561
3600-3625	561-565	566
3625-3650	566-570	571
3650-3675	571-575	576
3675-3700	576-580	581
3700-3725	581-585	586
3725-3750	586-590	591
3750-3775	591-595	596
3775-3800	596-600	601
3800-3825	601-605	606
3825-3850	606-610	611
3850-3875	611-615	616
3875-3900	616-620	621
3900-3925	621-625	626
3925-3950	626-630	631
3950-3975	631-635	636
3975-4000	636-640	641
4000-4025	641-645	646
4025-4050	646-650	651
4050-4075	651-655	656
4075-4100	656-660	661
4100-4125	661-665	666
4125-4150	666-670	671
4150-4175	671-675	676
4175-4200	676-680	681
4200-4225	681-685	686
4225-4250	686-690	691
4250-4275	691-695	696
4275-4300	696-700	701
4300-4325	701-705	706
4325-4350	706-710	711
4350-4375	711-715	716
4375-4400	716-720	721
4400-4425	721-725	726
4425-4450	726-730	731
4450-4475	731-735	736
4475-4500	736-740	741
4500-4525	741-745	746
4525-4550	746-750	751
4550-4575	751-755	756
4575-4600	756-760	761
4600-4625	761-765	766
4625-4650	766-770	771
4650-4675	771-775	776
4675-4700	776-780	781
4700-4725	781-785	786
4725-4750	786-790	791
4750-4775	791-795	796
4775-4800	796-800	801
4800-4825	801-805	806
4825-4850	806-810	811
4850-4875	811-815	816
4875-4900	816-820	821
4900-4925	821-825	826
4925-4950	826-830	831
4950-4975	831-835	836
4975-5000	836-840	841
5000-5025	841-845	846
5025-5050	846-850	851
5050-5075	851-855	856
5075-5100	856-860	861
5100-5125	861-865	866
5125-5150	866-870	871
5150-5175	871-875	876
5175-5200	876-880	881
5200-5225	881-885	886
5225-5250	886-890	891
5250-5275	891-895	896
5275-5300	896-900	901
5300-5325	901-905	906
5325-5350	906-910	911
5350-5375	911-915	916
5375-5400	916-920	921
5400-5425	921-925	926
5425-5450	926-930	931
5450-5475	931-935	936
5475-5500	936-940	941
5500-5525	941-945	946
5525-5550	946-950	951
5550-5575	951-955	956
5575-5600	956-960	961
5600-5625	961-965	966
5625-5650	966-970	971
5650-5675	971-975	976
5675-5700	976-980	981
5700-5725	981-985	986
5725-5750	986-990	991
5750-5775	991-995	996
5775-5800	996-1000	1001

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SAFETY COURSE SCHEDULE

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Classes Start at 8:00 a.m.

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Please call to register. Courses have limited space.

JANUARY 2014

Thursday, January 16th H2S Alive
Saturday, January 18th Emergency First Aid/AED/CPR
Sat & Sun, January 18th & 19th Standard First Aid/CPR
Monday, January 20th Confined Space Entry & Rescue
Wednesday, January 22nd Four Hour Fall Protection
Friday, January 24th H2S Alive
Monday, January 27th Hazard Assessment & Incident Investigation
Tuesday, January 28th Emergency First Aid/AED/CPR
Tues & Wed, January 28th & 29th Standard First Aid/CPR
Thursday, January 30th H2S Alive
Friday, January 31st Babysitters Course

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UTV & ATV Safety & Basic Industrial Fire Fighting Training are available (Seasonal)

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Confined Space Pre Entry • Ground Disturbance

www.westpemsafety.com

**Pembina Area
Synergy Group**

MEETING

Wed, JAN 22

opinion

Put a fire under it!

I'm not a fan about making New Year's resolutions or promises. I think those are hocus ponies are ones that we tell people just to make ourselves look good to others. We also know it's OK to give up our resolutions because everyone else is going to do it when February comes around.

I do enjoy hearing the promises people make about changing their actions starting January 1.

I'm going to lose weight and quit smoking. Some friends say, "No at 12:01 a.m. on January 1 the miracle fairy waves her magic wand and viola, smoking habit is gone. Not exactly, but I sure wish I had that wand for my own bad habits."

Sometimes when I wanted to make a positive change in my life I went to a motivational speaker at a conference. I have read motivational books. I work in what they have to say, and could become a believer and jump on board the ambition bus for maybe a week or ten. Then the bus runs out of gas and I'm not interested in going to the gas station.

This situation can apply to every single one of us. The question is, why does this happen? There are a number of scenarios.

You really don't want to achieve



From the Rec Desk
Kerry Doran

what you planned, read or saw.

You are too busy and forget about it.

It requires too much effort.

It requires that you make certain changes you aren't ready for yet.

It takes too much time to accomplish.

There are even more reasons why we lose our desire and motivation.

Lack of support or negative comments from others have been reasons why I have lost motivation. Some days I just want to motivate the couch to hold up my weight. I think making change all comes down to deciding how important to you really feel the change is.

To keep the excitement of motivation in your mind you need to strengthen your desire and be willing

to work toward accomplishing your goals. It is important to keep refueling the desire and ambition to keep your motivation alive. Remember that the big goal is made up of several little accomplishments put together. It is important to be proud of those ones as well.

I do know what goals I would like to accomplish this year for the community though. I want to engage more people in becoming more active this year. This isn't a resolution, but a challenge put out to all of you to learn something new, join a new club, become involved as a volunteer, pay it forward.

I will do my best to provide the community with events for the whole family and youth activities that will keep them entertained. What activity do you want to do this year? What prevents you from accomplishing your goal and how do you overcome that obstacle?

If I can help you in any way contact me at 780-514-2560 or fire me off an e-mail to rec.active@draytonvalley.ca.

— Kerry Doran is the Recreation Activity Coordinator for the Town of Drayton Valley.

Have you been travelling?



Did you take us along with you on your latest trip? Did you remember to get your picture taken with us? If you did e-mail your photo to courtney.whalen@sunmedia.ca so we can include it in our Roving Review feature.

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PASSING THE BUCK



Drayton Valley Health Services Foundation Executive Director Colleen Salama accepts a donation from Intercon Messaging to support the foundation's fundraising campaign.

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news

Fire Services briefs

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

NO CAUSE IDENTIFIED

REPORTS OF AN EXPLOSION

Reprints of an explosion in a shop resulted in a call to the Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services on Jan. 6. The subsequent collapse of the shop resulted in a structure fire, which crews worked to extinguish.

The incident is under investigation and Deputy Chief Kamil Ivesek said no cause for the explosion has been identified.

The fire was one of five calls for service the Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services responded to between Jan. 1 and 8.

Jan. 4 a fire alarm at a local business was reported. The call was determined to be a false alarm caused by some machinery running.

On Jan. 5 the fire services responded to two water-related calls. In the first, when firefighters arrived they discovered the source of the problem was a broken water main and public works was called to fix the issue.

In the second call they identified firefighters determined the problem was the result of a ruptured water line. The senior who lived in the home was unable to turn off the water. Firefighters assisted her and then advised her to call a plumber to address the problem.

Lasek said in the case of water problem residents should be contacting a plumber if it's an internal problem or the Town of Drayton Valley in the case of an event like a water main break. The town has someone on-call to deal with after hours events. They can be reached

at (780) 514-2200.

Rounding out the calls for a week was the report of the motor vehicle collision on Jan. 7. Fire crews responded, but when they arrived at the location no collision could be found.

HYDRANT HELP

People have been digging themselves out on a near constant basis over the past several weeks. The Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services are asking residents to take on a few extra scoops of snow to keep fire hydrants clear. If residents who live near fire hydrants can take an extra five minutes to clean around them it is helpful to the fire services in the event of a fire. Although residents aren't required to clean the hydrants it does assist the fire department, as they may be some time before public works is able to start digging them out. Having the hydrants cleared off saves time in locating and accessing them if firefighters are called to a fire.

RAKE THE ROOF

The amount of snow the area is dealing with is starting to weigh on people, both figuratively and literally. When it comes to homes, shops and outbuildings it's the literal weight that of most concern to many as they look at the need to clear off roofs. Buildings with flat roofs or those with only slight pitches are of more concern, but residents should also be keeping an eye on low roofs and those that collect quantities of drifting snow. When snow starts to build up homeowners should consider cleaning them off to avoid collapse or damage, advises the Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services.

Once warmer temperatures arrive and begin to loosen up snow on roofs, be aware that large pieces of snow and ice may be falling and be cautious when walking or working where that is likely to happen.

Written notice of an appeal for this permit, containing reasons for the appeal, and a \$250.00 appeal fee must be received by the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, either by hand or registered mail, at the Offices of Brazeau County by 5:00 p.m., January 28, 2014.

RCMP briefs

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

ROADWAY REVELERS

While many people opted for the responsible course to stay off the roads on New Year's Eve, revelers on foot resulted in a number of calls to RCMP.

Cpl. Marcia McDermott said police had a

number of calls concerning noise, mischief and property damage on the first day of 2014.

Starting of the new year RCMP have responded to 10 impaired driving complaints in the past few weeks. McDermott said one of the reports led to charges. In the other instances RCMP either weren't able to locate the suspected driver or those reported were found not to be intoxicated when located by police.

See RCMP on pg. 12

Got a news tip?

Call Courtney Whalen at
780-542-5380
ext. 24



Box 77, 7401 Township Road 494
Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1R1
(780) 542-7777
www.brazeau.ab.ca

NOTICE OF SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD HEARING BRAZEAU COUNTY 7401 Twp. Rd 494 (PO BOX 77), DRAYTON VALLEY, AB T7A 1R1

Take notice that the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board will meet on
Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 10:00 am to consider the following appeal

APPEAL:
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
LANDOWNER:
APPELLANT:
FILE:

To Appeal a Condition of a Subdivision
SW-6-49-4-WSM
Brian & Rhonda Smith
Mark Hanham
145DA8-060

Persons who wish to express an opinion on this application may attend the Hearing on Thursday, January 16, 2014 noted above or submit written comments in advance to the undersigned.

Marc Schoeninger, Secretary
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board



Box 77, 7401 Township Road 494
Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1R1
(780) 542-7777
www.brazeau.ab.ca

NOTICE OF APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

The following Development Permit has been issued by the Brazeau County Development Authority

PROPOSAL:

Work Camp - Four Mobile Camp Shacks
(each 35' x 12' x 14' high)

LEGAL DESC:

Lot B Plan 902 3107
within SE 29-48-7-WSM

FILE:

13D-175

Written notice of an appeal for this permit, containing reasons for the appeal, and a \$250.00 appeal fee must be received by the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, either by hand or registered mail, at the Offices of Brazeau County by 5:00 p.m., January 28, 2014.

For further information, please contact the Planning and Development Department at 780-542-2667.

news

Youth centre looks to future as it approaches its one year anniversary

Centre holding free concert that organizers believe will appeal to wide demographic

Lesley Allan
Western Review

It started out as "pipe dream" and what was considered a temporary facility at the time has proven to have sustainability as The Well Drop In Centre looks toward celebrating one year in Drayton Valley.

"It's pretty surreal. When we first started we had no idea, it was month to month," says Seth Shelley, assistant pastor at Valley Worship Assembly and one of organizers of the centre. "So it's kind of neat that we've got a year under our belt."

Opening February 2013, Shelley says that the initiative of starting a youth centre was only possible thanks to the generosity of the community, and although not all his goals have been met, so far, flexibility has been key to keeping the facility a success.

"I'd like to be somewhere else, not location wise, but as far as my idea of what would happen after a year," he says. "I haven't reached those goals

yet, but you just have to roll with the punches, and roll with what's thrown at you."

This flexibility and willingness to keep an open mind is one of the reasons The Well has been able to continuously attract local youth over the last year.

Although the numbers fluctuate due to outside factors such as weather and other community activities, Shelley says it's important to continually look for new ways to attract youth, something that can be tricky.

"It's an interesting dilemma trying to figure out what's going to be appealing to people, to make them want to step in and make them want to keep coming back," he shares.

"We're definitely open to suggestions, so if people have an idea of what can be effective of something that they think their kids would want to come to we're open to hearing it," Shelley encourages.

One of the newest additions to the centre was the introduction of a weekly movie night on Tuesdays, and going into the future Shelley also hopes to extend drop in hours and include after an after school component.

Another one of the centre's newest events is something Shelley hopes to hold on a more regular basis. Falling almost on the anniversary of

the centre opening, local youth and their families can join volunteers and organizers at The Well for a free concert Jan. 17.

The Friday night show will feature an all girl band from Edmonton called Holle. Their music, described on the band's website as having "catchy melodies and thick chorus (that) do not mask their inspirational words that speak about real life trials."

Also said to be "perfect for rock lovers" Shelley says that they're also a group that will attract listeners of all demographics.

"Music just has such a strong appeal for everybody," he says. "A band like this is a family friendly band. It's not your typical concert that you might get just a certain group of people, this is open to everybody and I think everybody will be able to find some enjoyment out of it. The music is able to bridge so many gaps with ages and gender, so it's just a lot of fun and it's a fun event."

Admission to the show is free to all those interested in attending and begins at 7 p.m.

The Well is located on 51 Ave. in Drayton Valley, between The Royal Bank and 36-ten Electric. For

more information on the centre and how to get involved call Shelley at (780) 898-6105, or find the centre on Facebook by searching "The Well Drop In Centre."

Thank You!

Thank you to the Town of Drayton Valley for fulfilling my request to clear my alley so I could get out and the garbage truck could get through! Also, our street cleaning has been good considering all the snow, GOOD JOB.

And, I would like to also say "thank you" to the "motorized snow angels" who have been clearing our street sidewalks!

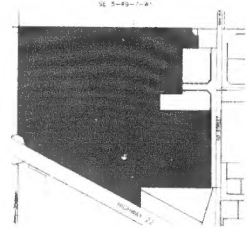
Brenda from 44 Avenue

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ATTENTION ADJACENT BUSINESSES OF A PORTION OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF 5-49-7-W5M

This is a public notice advising landowners in the above area that the Council of the Town of Drayton Valley proposes to amend the Bio-Mile Business Park Commercial Industrial Area Structure Plan for the lands legally described as SE 5-49-7-W5M. Council gave first reading to Bylaw No. 2013/21/D at its Regular Meeting of Council on December 11, 2013 to adopt the amendment to the Area Structure Plan for the land described as:

MERIDIAN 5 RANGE 7 TOWNSHIP 4
SECTION 5
QUARTER SOUTH EAST



A copy of the Bylaw may be examined at the Civic Centre during regular business hours. Public Hearing for the Bylaw will be held before the Regular Scheduled Meeting of Council, in the Council Chambers at the Drayton Valley Civic Centre, at 8:00am on January 29, 2014, for the purpose of hearing any objections, recommendations and/or comments pertaining to the proposed Area Structure Plan amendment.

Objections should be submitted in writing prior to the hearing. Those written submissions which have been received before the designated time will be discussed at the meeting before further presentation will be recognized.

Residents are encouraged to attend. Should you have any questions with regard to this proposed Bylaw please contact Chandra Dyck, Planning & Development Officer, at the Town Office at 514-2200.

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news

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Sports

Editor Courtney Whalen
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Oilmen sweep into town

Always popular curling bonspiel welcomed 44 teams to the Drayton Valley Curling Club

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

It was that time again as oilmen flocked to the Drayton Valley Curling Club for a weekend on the sheets as part of the 49th annual Oilmen's Bonspiel.

This year 44 teams were in town for four days of curling in an event that welcomes many returning faces year after year. This year's entries even saw a slight increase over last year's 40 teams.

Gory Nelson, one of the organizers of this year's event said it was another success with many teams coming from out of town to join the local companies who put together a team of curlers for the four-day 'spiel. While there's plenty of curling, with games starting last Thursday, there's also plenty of chances to socialize and teams also enjoyed games of poker or shuffleboard when they weren't throwing rocks.

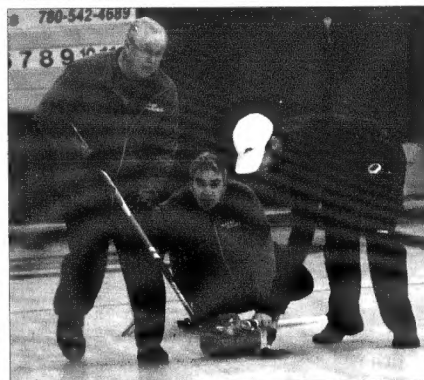
Saturday included a shoot-out event with a draw to the hutton. Darren Wernas walked away with the bragging rights and \$1,000 prize.

This year's 'A' final saw CCM taking on Baker Hughes. The Baker Hughes team of skip Wayne Heikkinen, third John Beekman, second Chris Heikkinen and lead Ken Purcell finished the weekend victorious.

The 'B' event saw the team from Brandette Well Servicing defeat Kandrea to bring the trophy home. In the 'C' event King's Energy Services took the win over DV Electric, while Can Vac Oilfield Services brought home the trophy in the 'D' event, defeating KPA.

Once again organizers received positive feedback from participants, noted Nelson, with many saying they would be back again next year.

Next year will mark the event's 50th anniversary.



Baker Hughes skip Wayne Heikkinen watches as lead Ken Purcell and second Chris Heikkinen help the rock on its way down the sheet during the 'A' event final of the 49th annual Oilmen's Bonspiel on Jan. 12. Baker Hughes went on to win the 'A' event over CCM. Teams from Brandette Well Servicing, King's Energy Services and Can Vac Oilfield Services (below left to right) won the 'B', 'C' and 'D' events respectively.

Courtney Whalen
Western Review



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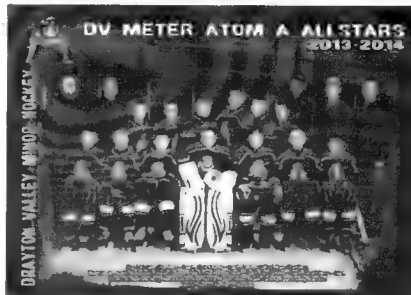
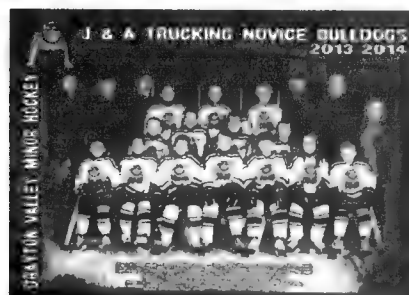
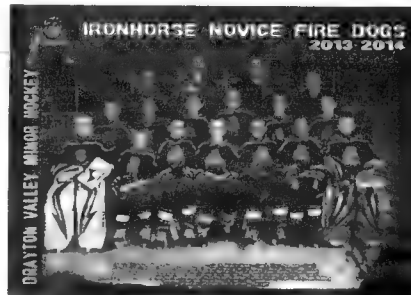


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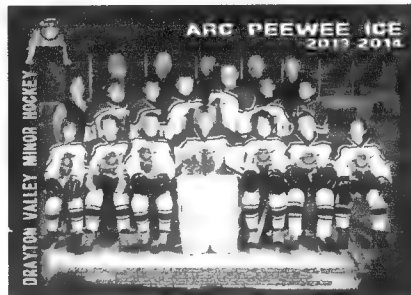


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SALUTE TO MINOR HOCKEY

Minor hockey players learn from Thunder

▶ AJHL players spend time mentoring with minor hockey

Lesley Allan
Western Review

Motivation is often the best way to help people of all ages improve their skills and learn new things. For young hockey players, like those with Drayton Valley Minor Hockey Association, what better way to keep them reaching for new goals than to match them up with local role models like the players from the Drayton Valley

Thunder. Players from the Thunder regularly hit the ice with local minor hockey players to help them with skill development and give them some encouragement.

"They're role models to those young kids," shares Thunder Head Coach and General Manager Mike Mueller, as to why the AJHL organization works with local minor hockey. "No any time you can put them in an environment with those kids it's great."

Over the years the Thunder has helped coach many local players and according to Mueller this is an important aspect of connecting with the community.

"We want to encourage as many as possible, whether it's the Drayton Valley Thunder or the Edmonton Oil Kings, or the Edmonton Oilers, as long as young kids have dreams and goals anything that we can do to spur that on is advantageous," he says. "I think a close relationship with minor hockey is integral in our setting. It's a small community so whether it's players or coaches and things like that, it only benefits us in the long term."

Much like the coaching staff, players also see the benefit in working with young hockey players and giving back to those in the community.

"Working with other people and working with little kids is a different experience," says Thunder forward Trevor Porter. "Just being involved in the community and being a community (minded) people that's what it's all about: helping out in your community and giving back to all the people that are helping you succeed in the game of hockey."

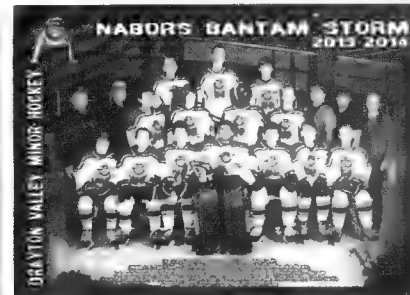
"They idolize you and they look up to you and it's always good when you get to go out with the younger ones like the mares," says Brayden Harris who also plays forward for the Thunder.

"I grew up in a small town not far from here and we didn't

have a junior program, which would have been nice because I think it's good for them," he shares. "We can go out there and teach them some things that the coaches can't because we're still playing competitive hockey. You can have fun with them because they're still young, jump around with them on the ice and have a good time."

Drayton Valley Minor Hockey Association President Orest Fraska agrees, noting it's a good partnership between the two organizations. "I think it's a great resource," he said. "It gives the kids a great role model."

see HOCKEY on pg. 28



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SALUTE TO MINOR HOCKEY

Partnership brings benefits to both organizations

HOCKEY from pg. 27

Since the Thunder players are playing at a highly skilled and competitive level, it looks like their insight and skills enhance what minor hockey players are already learning.

They can give a really good demonstration, noted Trzaska, on ice or off it, about the work. The UHL players are able to relate to the minor hockey players in a different way than the coaches.

"It's just a great camaraderie as well," he said. Besides improving the skills of young players, Mueller says that working with minor hockey is also a benefit to Thunder players, not only within the

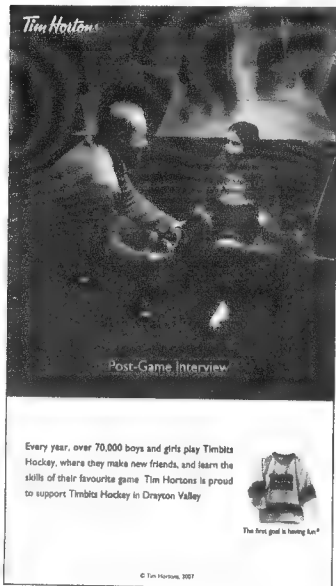
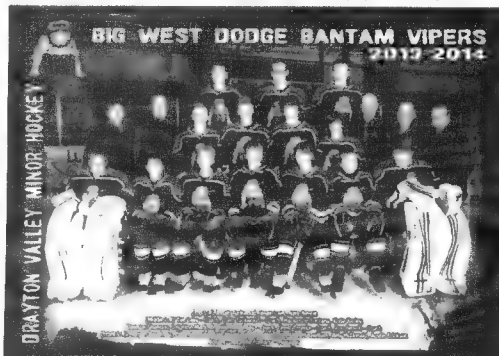
game, but in life as well. "There's more to life than hockey, so it helps them be able to relate to other people, it gives them people skills," he explains. "A lot of these guys will go on and grow up, have kids of their own and want to be minor hockey coaches so they get exposed to that. It kind of enhances their leadership skills and their ability to function within a group."

"In terms of does it help their game right now? It brings attention to probably some of the details that we try to teach these guys," continues Mueller. "It doesn't matter if you're

5 or if you're 25, there are certain aspects of the game that you teach, so it can bring some attention to detail there."

As the program moves ahead, players have one tip for young hockey players that might not improve their skills on the ice, but will help with their love of the game.

"Just keep having fun, do what you love to do, because time flies," says Poirier. "I remember when I was a little kid and never really thought that this day would come when I'm playing junior hockey and it's definitely fun but it goes by quick, so just have fun with it."



Every year, over 70,000 boys and girls play Timbits Hockey, where they make new friends, and learn the skills of their favourite game. Tim Hortons is proud to support Timbits Hockey in Drayton Valley.

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SALUTE TO MINOR HOCKEY

Pembina hockey association puts Pirates on ice

Pembina association provides chance to play hockey for area youngsters

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

These pirates don't need to worry about swabbing the deck or walking the plank. Instead they can focus on passing the puck and finding the net.

The Pembina Minor Hockey Association, called the Pembina Pirates, welcomes young and aspiring hockey players from a wide area that spreads out from Ennawille and Evansburg to form four teams for the 2013-14 season.

This year the Pirates association is offering local youth the chance to play hockey in their community in the initiation, novice, atom and prewee divisions.

For Pembina Minor Hockey Association President Dale Drus, keeping minor hockey running in the community is all about giving local children another way to keep active.

"It just gives the kids something to do in the winter," he said last week.

The association enjoys a strong program for younger players that helps them not only learn the technical skills of hockey, but other valuable skills that will serve them as they grow up.

"Socializing is probably the biggest," he said. Although smaller in numbers compared to some of the other associations they face in league play, Drus said the Pirates have a dedicated team of volunteers in both the executive and the contingent of coaches and team officials who give their time to teach and encourage the players. Many of those who step forward to keep the association vibrant do so partly to keep it going so their own children can benefit from

the program. The people who put their kids in hockey have a vested interest," he said.

The team also tries to be visible in the community when it can. Although it can be difficult to organize things in the off season Drus said the Pirates try to have a presence in events like parades in the communities where their players come from as a way to promote the association.

Promotion is also important when it comes to securing sponsors for the organization. Drus said the Pirates have benefited in the past several years from having a stable executive. The executive member in charge of securing sponsorship has done a good job of going out and finding that important piece of the organization.

"The support is out there," said Drus.

When it comes to other financial support he said the association is "pretty lucky" because registration fees cover the majority of the ice costs. The association has also benefited from taking part in charity casinos as well putting on fun casinos of their own to try and bring in some funds.

"It's something to kind of have fun with and raise some funds," he said.

In fact the association has a fun casino planned for its members and invited guests this weekend. Ultimately all the work is put in to make sure local children interested in learning the game of hockey have the opportunity. Drus said at the initiation level the organization keeps registration on the low end of the scale and often those who initially sign up for that division are back year after year as they progress through the program.

"Once they start then they never stop," said Drus. To find out more about the Pembina Minor Hockey Association go online to www.pembina-pirates.com.



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would like to thank all Parents, Volunteers, and Coaches that make up our Association. Your generosity of time is making a difference in the youth of today and in our community. Thank you to Tournament Sponsors, you make Drayton Valley Hockey tournaments a priority to attend. Last but not least, Thank you to the Thunder Organization and Players who help with Minor Hockey. We couldn't do it without you!

Drayton Valley Minor Hockey would like to thank all those who have helped us in the past and future. We are grateful for your support and we hope you will continue to support us in the future.

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community

ACTING OUT



Photos Submitted

It's all a big show as local youth gathered at Frank Maddock High School to take part in the River Valley Players (RVP) Acting Out youth drama program. The overly dramatic program was fun for everyone and ran last fall until just before Christmas. For more information on Community Theatre check out the RVP Facebook page.



Classifieds

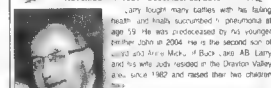
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Obituaries

Larry Richard Micko

November 14, 1954 - December 25, 2013

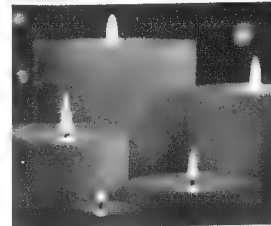


Larry fought many battles with his failing health and finally succumbed to pneumonia at age 59. He was predeceased by his youngest brother John in 2004. He is the second son of David and Irene Micko, of Buck, near AB. Larry and his wife Judy resided in the Drayton Valley area since 1982 and raised their two children, Lisa and Ryan.

He is survived by his wife Judy, son Richard (Lisa) Micko, of Drayton Valley, daughter Melanie (Kurtis) Micko, of Calgary, AB and his dear grandchildren Bryn, Cole, Kaitlyn, Kody and Savan. He is also survived by six siblings: Bob (Toni) Micko, of Buck Lake, AB, Wayne (Patricia) Micko, of Edmonton, AB, David (Patricia) Micko, of Calgary, AB, SC, Joanne (Sharon) Pearson of Stony Plain, AB, Fay (Tina) Harris of Sylvan Lake, AB, and Jeremy (Laraine) Micko of Wainwright, AB and many nieces and nephews.

Larry's memorial service was officiated by Lloyd Lohs and was held at the Drayton Valley Legion hall on Saturday, December 28, 2013, at 2:00 PM, with 230 family and friends attending. A lunch reception, arranged by Lindsay Hewer, for anyone who wishes to attend, was held at the Legion hall. The service was held at the Drayton Valley Legion hall on Saturday, December 28, 2013, at 2:00 PM, with 230 family and friends attending. A lunch reception, arranged by Lindsay Hewer, for anyone who wishes to attend, was held at the Legion hall. The service was held at the Drayton Valley Legion hall on Saturday, December 28, 2013, at 2:00 PM, with 230 family and friends attending. A lunch reception, arranged by Lindsay Hewer, for anyone who wishes to attend, was held at the Legion hall.

Mr. Marcel Jean-Paul Garand of Drayton Valley passed away at his home on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at the age of 74 years. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Jeannette as well as by their seven children and their families. The family of Marcel wishes to extend a thank you to the staff of Drayton Valley Hospital, Dr. Murphy, the staff at the Malone Clinic and Serenity Funeral Service. In honour of Marcel, a Funeral Service was held at Sobering Funeral Chapel in Beauséjour, Manitoba on Saturday, January 11, 2014. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorial contributions be made to the charity of one's choice.



In Memoriam

In Loving Memory Allan Garry Tuttle

February 11, 1947 - January 18, 2013

Dad & Grandpa

We wish we could see you one more time
Come walking through our door
But we know that's impossible
We will hear your voice no more
We know you can feel our tears
And you don't want us to cry
Yet our hearts are broken
Because we can't understand why
Someone so precious had to die
We pray that God will give us strength
And somehow get us through
As we struggle with this heartache
That was caused by losing you

Forever In Our Hearts,
Lori (Keith), Treven & Regan

In Memory of a
Special Dad & Grandpa
Allan Garry Tuttle
Feb. 11, 1947 - Jan. 18, 2013
We're holding back the tears today
remembering those
wonderful and precious times
spent happily with you
And we can't think of anything
we wouldn't give to see that
lovable, tender face that
meant so much to us.
Just to spend a day with you
and laugh and cry again,
for since you've been gone
We're never been the same.
Forever Loved,
Shirley, Louise & Alvin

In Memory of my loving Husband
Allan Garry Tuttle
February 11, 1947 to January 18, 2013
As you died in my arms
My heart broke in two
One half stayed with me
The other half went with you
I miss you, every single
moment of every single day
Janet



Vivian Woodruff
June 24, 1916
- Jan. 7, 1992
Ever Remembered
Shirley, Louise & Alvin and Families

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school notebook

BRETTON HIGH SCHOOL
Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone for the food and gift donations before Christmas. As a school we donated more than 1,300 items. Spring Drama Club sign up is on now, please see Ms. Sutton as soon as possible if you would like to be a part of it!

On Jan. 11 and 12 Bretton High School hosted a senior girls basketball tournament.

The next School Council meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Jan. 13.

Diploma exams are this month and term 2 begins on Monday, Feb. 3.

Grade 12 diploma exams schedule:
Monday, Jan. 13 - English language arts 30.1, 30.2 - Part A
Tuesday, Jan. 14 - Social studies 10.1, 10.2 - Part A
Monday, Jan. 20 - English language arts 30.1, 30.2 - Part B
Tuesday, Jan. 21 - Social studies 10.1, 10.2 - Part B

H.W. PICKUP
We barely made it into our parking lot because of the snow cover, but classes resumed last week and students and staff alike were happy to get the new year started! Welcome back, Huskies!

Welcome back to Mrs. Somerville and to Mrs. Nuckle. We are happy to see you both where you belong!

Mrs. Maclean's 7A and 7D class were proud to exhibit their book displays in the lobby last Tuesday during book's week.

Students took great pride in showcasing a book of their choice from our exceptional library here at H.W. Pickup! Congratulations and well done, students!

Tomorrow night, on Jan. 15, parents are invited to attend our PAC meeting in the library at 7 p.m.

Wrestling continues with practices being held every Monday and Tuesday starting at 5:30 p.m. Girls and boys are still being encouraged to join the ever increasing team of wrestling.

Tournament competition continues in both January and in February.

Senior basketball scheduling is out. Husky girls and boys played Onaway at home last Tuesday. Teams will travel to Whitecourt on Jan. 14 to play Hinton. Huskies will then travel to play Percy Baxter, again in Whitecourt, on Jan. 21. Good luck, players and coaches. Junior scheduling is being revisited, and will be reported when league and tournament play is in play.

Archery practices are still being held Monday evenings

right after school.
Five day work weeks until the last week of classes, Jan. 31 is a teacher PD day. Have a mild month of January with no more snow everyone!

HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY
Welcome back! Hopefully the Christmas break gave everyone a chance to rest, relax, and rejuvenate for the final push to the end of Semester 1.

Europe trip 2015 is continuing to take registrations now. All interested travellers should sign up as soon as possible to assure a place on the trip. Please contact Mrs. Dupont at the school for more information.

The final exam schedule is available on the school website. Please consult this schedule to confirm what days your child needs to be at school to write their finals.

Last day of regular classes for Grade 12 students will be Thursday, Jan. 23.

Last day of regular classes for Grades 9, 10 and 11 students will be Thursday, Jan. 24.
There will be no school for any students on Jan. 31.

Semester 2 diploma exams will start on Feb. 3.

AURORA
Our Aurora students are all back in the swing of things for term two. It will be a busy term both socially and academically with lots of exciting events planned. Right now everyone is having a lot of fun on the giant sleigh of snow around the walkways.

All this week our guest dance instructor, Fallon Wood, is taking each class and developing a dance routine with them which will end in a dance recital on Jan. 20 in the gym at 1 p.m. Parents are welcome to attend.

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meets on Jan. 14 in the library at 7 p.m. All parents are welcome to come out and get involved.

On Jan. 21 the Grade 6 students will be travelling to Edmonton to tour the Alberta Legislature as part of their unit on democracy and government.

Jan. 23 is scheduled to be a Winter Fun Day. Winter Fun Day is an afternoon of outdoor games in the snow, like a field day with each class rotating through various stations.

Once again many of the Grade 6 students have volunteered to lead the activities and help with the day. Afterwards students will warm up with hot chocolate served in their pods. If the weather is good we will reschedule the event.

Jan. 24 is our next school spirit

day entitled Winter White Day where everyone should dress in as much white clothing as possible and accessorize with white items.

Class 3B is scheduled to take their swimming lessons from Jan. 15 to 22. Please note that the lesson scheduled for Jan. 20 is rescheduled to Jan. 28.

Thank you to all who donated to Santitas Anonymous. We collected more than 600 hundred items, which were distributed to needy families in our area.

Please keep in mind the annual Aurora fundraising drive is still accepting donations. We depend on your generosity every year, whether you are an individual, a family, or a business.

ELDORADO
Welcome back to learning Eldorado Community! We trust that everyone had a restful and lengthy recharge over the holidays.

Our first week back was a busy one. It was great to see the sparkling hallways and tidy classrooms. A huge thank you to our custodians Mrs. Demczuk, Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parents please make sure you call the office or e-mail kerrie.lemer@starcatholic.ab.ca if your child will be late or absent. If you have reached the answering machine please leave a message as staff are unavailable to answer the phone.

Please check our website <http://stan.starcatholic.ab.ca/> for up-to-date information.

Important dates in January:
15 - Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Championship 7 p.m.

16 - Tim Hortons snack day, 7 p.m. - to Rabbit Hill
20 - Parent Council meeting at 7 p.m., baby-sitting provided

22 - Pancake snack
23 - Gr. 8 ski trip to Rabbit Hill

28 - Gr. 7 Hockey Hokey
30 - Tim Hortons snack day
31 - PD Day - no school for students

DRAYTON CHRISTIAN
Written by the DCS New Team
We had an excellent Christmas break and we are glad to be back at school! The first of a New Year welcomes New Year's resolutions. A New Year's resolution is a goal you set for the year so that you become a better person. Here is our New Year's resolution for 2014.

Grade 1
In Grade 1 the students' goals this year are to read better, eat healthy, and to practice their writing more.

Grade 2
The Grade 2 class decided to raise more money so that they can help more people. Terry Fox

the school.
Canadian Tire Jump Start program sponsors children financially to enable them to participate in organized sports. Please contact Karen Tetraut at 780-542-4396 for confidential referrals and applications, or for more information.

Important reminders: There is a handicapped parking spot on the south side of the crosswalk in the front of the school. It is marked with blue paint. Please make sure that you are not parked in this spot, as this spot needs to be available for those who require it.

Cold and flu season is here! Please keep your child/children home if they are unwell. Please make sure your child/children have weather appropriate clothing and footwear with them every day.

Please pull into a parking spot (where there is NO yellow paint) when dropping off or picking up students in the back or front parking lots of the school.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parents please make sure you call the office or e-mail kerrie.lemer@starcatholic.ab.ca if your child will be late or absent. If you have reached the answering machine please leave a message as staff are unavailable to answer the phone.

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Grade 2
The Grade 2 class decided to raise more money so that they can help more people. Terry Fox

is a role model since he raised a lot of money for cancer. They are also going to exercise more and have more field trips.

Grade 3
The Grade 3 class's New Year's resolution is to read more. They will vote for which pet they will decide what to get once they have raised enough money.

Grade 4
The Grade 4 class decided to fundraise for a new class pet. They will vote for which pet they will decide what to get once they have raised enough money.

Grade 5/6
In Grade 5/6 the class's New Year's resolution is to read more, be nicer to each other, and multiply numbers automatically.

Grade 7/8
The Grade 7/8 class thought that everyone should "smile and nod" more and show up on time.

Grade 9
The Grade 9 class decided to do their homework on time, get abs, and finish junior high.

Grade 10
Communicas has been the main part of my life. Looking back, I've had a lot of successes and no regrets, so that's nice, she said.

"I'm definitely going to miss seeing Jamie and all the siblings at the Aldrie Ridge. That's going to be the hardest part for me."

Her coach, Jamie Aldrie, said to say farewell.
"You both of us think it will feel like I'm still taking a long break," he said.

"But I always figure that if someone is finished and relieved to get out the door, you hold on for very long time. There should be a feeling of missing."

The pair have made it to the top of the world together.
Boychuk earned her first international gold medal in 2007 as a youth at World Age Groups.

"That kind of paved the road for me," she said.

At her first World Championships in 2008, she earned an impressive bronze medal.

A year later she scored to gold to take the title of World Champion in France.

In 2011, Boychuk led the ladies double mix transponte team to win another global gold.

Finally at the 2013 championship weeks, she once again helped the team to win a podium with a silver medal.

"They did an amazing job," she said.
"It's a little tired, but I felt like two years of hard work to the younger athletes."

Ever-driven, Boychuk set her sights high right off the bat when she started training with the world's best skiers and coaches.

news

Province in print

Stories gathered from Alberta's weekly newspapers

TOP TRAINING UNIT RETIRING
Aldrie Ridge
Aldrie's Corinna Boychuk is bouncing off into the sunset.

Following a silver medal team win and a fifth-place individual showing at World Championships in Belgia in November, Boychuk made the decision to step out of the spotlight.

Going into it knowing that this was possibly going to be my last event... as soon as I landed that last pass I knew I was ready to finish," said the 24-year-old athlete.

Training five days a week since she was 16 has taken its toll.

"I've been doing this for 11 years. It's a little draining and it takes up a lot of your life," said Boychuk. "Sometimes you just know when you're ready to move on."

A retirement departure from the Air Force and her career now leaves Boychuk widowed.

"Communicas has been the main part of my life. Looking back, I've had a lot of successes and no regrets, so that's nice," she said.

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"They did an amazing job," she said.
"It's a little tired, but I felt like two years of hard work to the younger athletes."

And so she did. An aggressive athlete started out, Boychuk picked it up quickly.

"This was a lot of crashing and a lot of failed routines for some time, but eventually I grew into myself," she said.

Boychuk still finds herself on autopilot heading straight to the gym on her drive home from work.

"It was like breathing, something I did every day. I'm still working on that. How do you just stop doing something you do every day?" she said.

Since her retirement before Christmas, she's been training at Corbett 403 and spending plenty of time with family and friends.

"Still she can't stay away from the sport herself. She's certified as a judge and a coach, and hopes to do both in the future."

"You never really have to leave," said Boychuk.

"I definitely won't be leaving coaching. It's always been something I thought I'd do."

Maskew's resurrected
Winiskindin Times

Out with the old and in with the original. More than a century later, the place names Hobbs and Maskew's are still remembered.

With the New Year came a new beginning for the Maskew's people. The name change ceremony took place at midnight on New Year's Eve at the Chief West End Memorial Centre. More than 1,000 people celebrated in song, drumming, and dance.

Three-elder, chief from the Samson and Ermineskin Cree Nations, Montana First Nation and Louis Bull Tribe, local mayors, council members, and MLA Verlyn Olson were in attendance for the special name change ceremony and the signing of a memorandum of understanding.

Wayne Moonias was the stickman and a Louis Bull Tribe council member. He said the name change was a long time coming.

"As far as I know, it's been 30-40 years we've been talking about it and working on it. To see this come to fruition, it's amazing. There's a lot of enthusiasm and excitement."

Maskew's said the name "Maskew's" or "Bear Hills" refers to a traditional land claim by his people occupied. He said restoring the name will allow modern First Nations people connect with their homeland.

The area was renamed Hobbs in 1891, following the establishment of a train station. Canadian Pacific Railway president, Cornelius Van Horne named it after his favourite Dutch landscape painter, Melchior Hobbs.

Marvin Yellowbird, Chief of Samson

Cree Nation, said the name "Hobbs" never meant anything to his people. He said generations young and old wanted the name changed.

"We've had young people, like Grade 3, who's pushed for the name change. I've heard others in meetings advise the leadership to change the name," said Yellowbird.

A petition was started more than two years ago for the federal government to restore the name of Maskew's to the area.

"I hope it will bring about a sense of unity among the four nations," said Chief Marvin Yellowbird.

Then Chairman of the Ermineskin Cree Nations said the never understood why Maskew's and Ponska held onto their name names but a native reserve in the middle of the two lost to original name.

"It was interesting how the two neighbouring towns had a Cree and a Blackfoot name, but in the middle didn't have a Cree name," he commented.

Outman said a name represents so much more to her culture.

"I remember hearing someone saying when you say a name, it evokes the history of the place, the people, the plants, the animals. When you say a name it has meaning. It has strength and has something behind it. So I think it's very important that we reclaim that name for ourselves," said Moonias.

Moonias echoed the importance of the place name to his people. "Maskew's had a spiritual meaning to us. We're spiritual people. It's what sets us apart from other names, our ability to connect with nature and all things in the universe. We are Maskew's Cree," said Moonias.

Drumming, whistling, clapping, and cheering filled the room when M.A. Olson presented the first ever made Maskew's sign to the elders and four tribes.

"By reclaiming, reaffirming and utilizing our traditional place names, we the Maskew's Cree First Nation assert our nationhood, our values, our language, our culture, and our history and thereby a sense of pride and belonging among our nations, especially our youth," Chief Marvin Yellowbird said to the crowd.

In New Year's parties, Chief Yellowbird said for blessing over the restored name. "Celebrate, we thank you. Guide our steps in 2014. We ask for your guidance and thank you for our time in history as we return to who we are as First Nations."

Celebration of the name change and of the New Year began earlier in the day with a pipe ceremony and small feast of coffee, main soup, beef soup, fried and baked bannock, berries, oranges and

tea. Moonias said this blessing tradition is believed to bring luck and to have a prosperous new year.

At the stroke of midnight Samson Cree Chief Marvin Yellowbird

addressed the cheering crowd in the gymnasium. "We are Cree and proud to be Maskew's."

see P10 on pg. 48

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